

ANNUAL REPORTS
OF THE VARIOUS
BOARDS OF TOWN OFFICERS
OF THE
TOWN OF MENDON,
INCLUDING REPORTS OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
FOR THE
Municipal Year Ending March 3, 1890,

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1890.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

The undersigned, Treasurer of Mendon for the year ending March 3, 1890, respectfully submits the account of his doings.

He debits himself with the following assets, viz:—

Amount received of Treasurer for the year 1889,	\$ 454 15
Borrowed on town notes,	3,000 00
From State Treasurer, corporation tax,	\$419 18
“ “ bank tax,	547 20
“ “ State aid,	431 63
“ “ balance corporation tax for 1888,	13 22

	<u>\$1,411 23</u>
From State Treasurer, income of school fund,	205 04
“ County Treasurer, dog tax dividend,	141 13
“ Collector of taxes for the year 1888,	103 42
“ “ of taxes for the year 1889,	6,615 25
“ telephone tolls,	34 65
“ Edward L. Smith for use of Town Hall,	89 00
“ two auctioneer licenses,	4 00
“ John C. Wood, license for alley,	2 00
“ William H. Aldrich, for use of hay scales,	13 19
“ Julius A. George, for Town Annals sold,	5 50
“ old lumber and wood sold,	3 70
“ John Barry, for grass,	1 00
“ School Committee, overdrawn and repaid,	48 55
“ F. H. Wood, surveyor, overdrawn and repaid,	36
	<u>\$12,132 17</u>
Balance due Treasurer,	77 05

\$12,209 22

He credits himself with the following sums:—

Paid 137 Town Orders,	\$7,498 86
Austin A. Taft, 5 notes,	2,400 00
Julius A. George, note,	600 00
“ bond,	1,000 00
Austin A. Taft, interest on notes,	54 00
Julius A. George “ on note,	5 70
“ “ on bond,	50 66
Ann Quigley, “ on bond,	20 00
State Tax,	580 00

\$12,209 22

Bond outstanding due Ann Quigley,	\$500 00
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AUSTIN A. TAFT, Treasurer.

Mendon, Feb. 13, 1890.

SELECTMEN'S REPORT.

The Selectmen respectfully submit the following report of the expenditures of the town for the municipal year ending March 3, 1890:—

INCIDENTAL EXPENSES.

L. A. Cook, coal for extinguisher,	\$ 7 00
Cyrus A. Barker, rent and care of extinguisher, to Feb. 2, 1889,	2 75
Reuben Hill, rent and care of extinguisher to May 4, 1889,	4 00
Reuben Hill, rent and care of extinguisher to Aug. 1, 1889,	3 00
W. A. Gaskill, labor in old cemetery,	5 00
C. A. Fletcher, labor in old cemetery,	6 20
H. C. Adams, insuring building for town officers,	10 00
William E. Barrows, killing and burying dogs,	2 00
Weed Brothers & Lent, making voting shelves,	25 58
William Henry, sawing wood for town officers' rooms,	1 48
S. W. Cook, use of horse, drawing extinguisher to Wilcox fire,	2 00
G. B. Williams, cash paid for use of telephone,	60 00
Dr. J. M. French, returning 6 births,	1 50
John Barry, blacksmithing,	2 30
David Adams, cash paid express, etc.,	4 00
Dr. M. W. Knight, returning 4 births,	1 00
E. L. Smith, services July 4, 1889,	2 00
G. Gaskill, services July 4, 1889,	2 00
G. Gaskill, killing and burying dog,	2 00
G. B. Williams, cash paid for sundries,	1 84
A. W. Gaskill, cash paid for burying dog,	1 00
	<hr/> \$146 65

CARE AND SUPPLIES FOR TOWN HALL.

E. L. Smith, care of hall to April 1, 1889,	\$45 00
E. L. Smith, sundries for hall to April 1, 1889,	11 20
L. A. Cook, coal, 2 bills,	48 26
Field Brothers, coal, old bill,	10 88
Field Brothers, coal,	10 47
Clark Ellis & Sons, stove,	35 00
A. W. Gaskill, labor outside hall,	1 50
	<hr/> \$162 31

EXPENSE FOR LAND AND BUILDING FOR TOWN OFFICERS.

J. A. George, plan and survey,	\$ 1 00
Horace Hobbs, examining title,	3 00
W. H. Aldrich and trustees, for land and building,	125 00
A. S. Pickering, stock and mason work, 2 bills,	121 54
Weed Brothers & Lent, stock and carpenter work,	359 87
A. G. Chilson, paint stock and labor, 2 bills,	64 45
L. Freeman, labor and carting lumber,	1 00
Berton Williams, labor and use of team,	6 39
H. S. Coleman, labor,	98
Gilbert Gaskill, labor and use of team moving safes,	3 50
Clark Ellis & Sons, builders' hardware and stove,	27 63
H. J. Dearing, furniture, curtains and sundries, 2 bills,	7 95
Hixon Brothers, tables,	4 00
A. W. Gaskill, sand, labor and use of team,	23 53
G. B. Williams, cash paid for sundries,	3 68
	<hr/> \$753 52

SERVICES OF TOWN OFFICERS.

C. D. Albro, superintendent of schools, 1888-9, balance,	\$30 00
Gilbert Gaskill, lockup keeper, to April 1, 1889,	5 00
A. W. Gaskill, assessing taxes of 1889,	39 55
James Quigley, " "	45 00
W. S. Wilcox, " "	36 25
L. Freeman, collecting taxes of 1888,	65 00
David Adams, services as town clerk and registrar,	22 70
E. L. Smith, services as constable to March 3, 1890,	15 00
Alanson Freeman, services as inspector state election, 1889,	2 50
H. S. Coleman, services as inspector state election, 1889,	2 50
L. Freeman, services as selectman, 1889-90,	20 00
A. W. Gaskill, " "	25 00
G. B. Williams, " "	62 75
Austin A. Taft, services as treasurer, 1889-90,	35 00
	<hr/> \$406 25

PRINTING.

G. M. Billings, town reports,	\$46 00
F. E. Day, tax-bills, posters and cards,	3 25
Cook & Sons, dog notices,	1 00
	<hr/> \$50 25

MILITARY AID, CHAP. 301, ACTS OF 1889, AND CHAP. 301, ACTS OF 1879.

John Curley,	\$72
James McKenna,	48

Rufus Hazard,	\$48
David A. Kingman,	72
Catherine Foley,	24
Olive E. Pickering,	28
Abel G. Weatherhead,	88
George W. Scisco,	48
Waterman Taft,	50
Dexter Inman,	30
Caleb V. Smith,	20
	<hr/>
	\$528

MILITARY AID, CHAP. 279, ACTS OF 1889, AND CHAP.
252, ACTS OF 1879.

John Oakford,	\$72 00
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RELIEF OF SOLDIERS, CHAP. 298, ACTS OF 1889.

Abel G. Weatherhead,	\$17 55
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ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The town at its last annual meeting voted to abolish its board of Road Commissioners, and elected thirteen Highway Surveyors.

In accordance with their legal duty, the Selectmen, early in April, after filling a vacancy by appointment of Charles H. Howe, and making a careful examination of the roads, sent to each Surveyor a written paper designating his limits and allotment of money, calling attention to his obligation to expend the same "carefully and judiciously under the direction of the Selectmen," and directing returns of vouchers to the Selectmen on the first Monday of July and also on Feb. 10th.

All the Surveyors have appeared desirous to conform to the law and the directions given them in every respect. Among so many it proved, as was to have been expected, that some failed to render a perfectly intelligible account of every item expended, but this board desires to express its appreciation of good work honestly done in every Surveyor's district, and that many have produced excellent results from the money used. The rate of wages, with scarcely an exception, has been for Surveyor, 17½ cents per hour; man with team, 35 cents per hour; and for laborers, 15 cents per hour.

Each Surveyor's first allotment, total expenditure, and his expenditure for team work, so far as reported, will be seen below:—

No. Dist.	Surveyor.	1st Allotment.	Total expenditure.	Cost of team work.
1	William W. Nelson,	\$ 70	\$ 64 67	\$10 50
2	David F. Holbrook,	80	80 48	18 90

3	Erwin A. Bates,	\$150	\$167 78	\$38 87
4	Gustavus A. Staples,	60	107 91	20 03
5	Frank H. Wood,	90	104 64	34 91
6	Andre Southwick,	65	70 65	14 17
7	Alanson Taft,	130	142 92	27 50
8	George B. Cromb,	65	87 16	18 18
9	Charles H. Howe,	100	120 19	24 80
10	Alfred I. Barrows,	40	45 32	11 78
11	Davis Hill,	90	92 99	24 22
12	Walter A. Gaskill,	85	84 79	17 25
13	Gilbert Gaskill,	75	116 51	19 72

		<u>\$1,100</u>	<u>\$1,286 01</u>	<u>\$280 83</u>
Paid E. T. Bates, balance old bill,			6 20	
			<u>\$1,292 21</u>	

SUPPORT OF SCHOOLS.

Paid School Committee 9 orders,	\$2,660 00
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SUPPORT OF POOR.

Paid Overseers of Poor 12 orders,	\$1,050 00
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THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

Paid Trustees, 8 orders,	\$359 76
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RECAPITULATION.

Incidentals,	\$ 146 65
Town Hall,	162 31
Town officers' building,	753 52
Services of town officers,	406 25
Printing,	50 25
Military aid, Chap. 301,	528 00
Military aid, Chaps. 279 and 252,	72 00
Relief of soldiers, Chap. 298,	17 55
Roads,	1,292 57
Schools,	2,660 00
Poor,	1,050 00
Library,	359 76
	<u>\$7,498 86</u>

The Selectmen also report that the liabilities of the town known to them are as follows:—

Due on bills against the town, estimated,	\$ 20 00
Due town officers, estimated,	70 00
Due school teachers, estimated,	60 00

Due on town bond,	\$500 00
Due Treasurer, over-payments,	77 05
	<hr/> \$727 05

The available assets, so far as known, are as follows:—

Due from Collector, list of 1889,	\$155 38
Due from State, aid to soldiers, etc., Chap. 301,	
to Jan. 1, 1890, 12 months,	516 00
To March 1, 1890, 2 months,	100 00
Due from State, aid to soldiers, etc., Chaps. 279	
and 252, to Jan. 1, 1890,	36 00
To March 1, 1890, 2 months,	6 00
Due from W. H. Aldrich, use hay scales, estimated,	25 00
	<hr/> \$838 38
Net balance in favor of town,	<hr/> \$111 33

Respectfully submitted,

G. B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
A. W. GASKILL,	
LIBERTY FREEMAN,	

Mendon, Feb. 13, 1890.

TOWN GRANTS, 1889.

Schools,	\$1,600 00
School-books, etc.,	150 00
Poor,	1,000 00
Roads,	1,200 00
Debt,	1,000 00
Interest,	100 00
Library,	225 00
Incidentals,	300 00
Officers' building,	500 00
	<hr/> \$6,075 00

COLLECTOR'S REPORT.

LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1888.

Dr.

Balance uncollected, Feb. 18, 1889,	\$86 28	
Interest received,	17 14	
	<hr/>	\$103 42

Cr.

By cash paid treasurer,	\$103 42
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LIBERTY FREEMAN, COLLECTOR FOR 1889.

Dr.

Taxes committed for collection,	\$7,148 28	
Additional assessments,	6 00	
Interest received,	41 05	
	<hr/>	\$7,195 33

Cr.

By cash paid treasurer,	\$6,615 25	
Paid county tax,	385 00	
Abatements,	39 70	
	<hr/>	\$7,039 95
Balance uncollected Feb. 10, 1890,		\$155 38

REPORT OF OVERSEERS OF POOR.

The Overseers of Poor submit the following report for the municipal year ending March 3, 1890:—

John W. Barry, Mary Kirby, Mary C. Taft, Edna Allen, Janie Briggs, Jennie Davenport, Francis R. Scisco, Cora M. Gould and six children, George H. Wood (having a settlement in Mendon), Catherine P. Fostream and three children (having a settlement in Boston), Joseph H. Wood and wife, Randal Billington, Jason G. Cummings and wife (having a settlement in Uxbridge), Hannah Aldrich (having a settlement in Northbridge), Mrs. G. H. Gabrey and child (belonging to Milford), Mrs. Minnie Thompson and child (to Blackstone), have been wholly or partially supported.

The Overseers charge themselves with the receipt of the following named funds belonging to the town:—

Balance from last year,	\$ 18 31
Twelve town orders,	1,050 00
City of Boston,	69 00
Town of Northbridge,	8 00
	\$1,145 31

The Overseers credit themselves with paying the following amounts:—

FOR SUPPORT OF

John W. Barry,	\$169 46
Mary Kirby,	234 58
Mary C. Taft,	72 00
Edna Allen,	104 00
Janie Briggs,	104 30
Jennie Davenport,	73 00
Francis R. Scisco,	24 00
Cora M. Gould and family,	96 00
George H. Wood,	60 00
Catherine P. Fostream and family,	58 00
Joseph H. Wood and wife,	7 00
Randal Billington,	21 50
Jason G. Cummings and wife,	3 00
Hannah Aldrich,	8 00
Mrs. G. H. Gabrey and child,	8 87
Mrs. Minnie Thompson and child,	3 43
Dr. M. W. Knight, attendance Whalen child, old bill,	20 00

Gilbert Gaskill, care of 130 tramps at 15 cts.,	\$19 50	
Gilbert Gaskill, broom, pail and shavings for tramp house,	50	
A. W. Gaskill, wood for tramp house,	4 50	
E. A. Bates, wood for tramp house,	2 00	
L. Freeman, postage stamps,	1 24	
L. Freeman, services as Overseer of Poor,	35 00	
Gilbert Gaskill, " " "	6 00	
Edward Dixon, " " "	6 00	
Balance in hands of overseers,	3 43	
	<hr/>	\$1,145 31
From the whole amount paid for support of poor,		\$1,141 88
Deduct what was due for the support of the pau- pers to March 4, 1889,	\$90 38	
What has been paid out for Whalen child,	20 00	
" " " Boston,	58 00	
" " " Uxbridge,	31 50	
" " " Northbridge,	8 00	
" " " Milford,	8 87	
" " " Blackstone,	3 43	
	<hr/>	\$220 18
		<hr/>
		\$921 70
Add what will be due for support of paupers to March 3, 1890,		\$80 84
		<hr/>
Cost of supporting the poor for the year ending March 3, 1890,		\$1,002 54
Due from Uxbridge, \$31.50; Milford, \$8.87; Blackstone, \$3.43.		

Respectfully submitted,

LIBERTY FREEMAN,	} Overseers of Poor.
GILBERT GASKILL,	
EDWARD DIXON,	

Mendon, Feb. 10, 1890.

REPORT OF TOWN CLERK.

To express paid on Mass. Reports and other public documents during the year,	\$3 20	
To postage paid on election, registration and other returns during the year,	45	
To cash paid for stationery during the year,	35	
	<hr/>	\$4 00
To services as clerk of the Board of Registrars,		4 00
" state election and clerks' meeting, two days,		4 00
To recording, indexing and returning 15 births,		7 50
" " " 12 marriages,		1 80
" " " 17 deaths,		3 40
To collecting facts for return of 8 deaths, for registration,		2 00
		<hr/>
		\$26 70

DOGS REGISTERED IN THE YEAR 1889.

Male dogs, 83,	\$166 00	
Female dogs, 6,	30 00	
	<hr/>	\$196 00
Less clerk's fees,		17 80
		<hr/>
Balance paid County Treasurer,		\$178 20

BIRTHS REGISTERED IN 1889.

DATE.	NAME OF CHILD.	NAME OF PARENTS.
Jan. 15, 1889,	Blanche Chipman,	Lewis D. and Jennie Chipman.
Mar. 31,	George Taft Kelley,	William D. and Sarah J. Kelley.
April 7,	Joseph Driscoll,	Florence and Margaret E. Driscoll.
" 27,	Edith Wheelock Lowell,	Lucius and Alice Lowell.
May 2,	Erle Frederick Gaskill,	Walter A. and Hattie E. Gaskill.
July 11,	Ruth Lydia Worthen,	George W. and Effie E. Worthen.
Aug. 7,	Albert Kay Scrivens,	George and Margaret Ann Scrivens
" 13,	Abbie Marion Darling,	George H. and Nancy Darling.
Sept. 17,	Florence Merle Brown,	Fred E. and Eudora Brown.
" 24,	Helen May Thayer,	Ellis W. and Mary E. Thaver.
" 25,	Edgar Stanley Wheeler,	Lyman E. and Susan I. Wheeler.
Oct. 21,	Warren Dexter Bates,	Lewis and Rosabel Bates.
Nov. 1,	Albert Irving Cromb,	George B. and Nettie L. Cromb.
" 11,	Stella May Brown,	Arthur E. and Mary Ann Brown.
Dec. 15,	Rufus Edwin Taft,	Leonard E. and Susan M. Taft.

MARRIAGES REGISTERED IN 1889.

DATE.	NAME OF GROOM AND BRIDE.	RESIDENCE OF EACH.
Jan. 1, 1889,	George E. Bates, Emma St. George,	Mendon. Bellingham.
Jan. 26,	Samuel E. Everton, Mary S. Ryan,	Mendon. Uxbridge.
Mar. 18,	Irving E. Pearson, Jennie E. Kingman,	Mendon. Mendon.
May 8,	Arthur Robert Taft, Rosanna Frances George,	Uxbridge. Mendon.
May 30,	John Buchannon, Nellie M. Prentice,	Mendon. Mendon.
June 26,	Willie Raymond Cook, Bertha Clark,	Bellingham. Mendon.
July 16,	Henry M. Burr, Cora E. Gaskill,	Mendon. Mendon.
Aug. 9,	Wilfred Gaskill, Eleanor Bennett,	Mendon. Hopedale.
Aug. 10,	Lester G. Newman, Jennie A. Brown,	Brockton. Mendon.
Aug. 18,	Arthur E. Brown, Mary Ann Carmody,	Mendon. Uxbridge.
Oct. 15,	Albion Andrew Gaskill, Abbie Frances Hicks,	Mendon. Sutton.
Nov. 13,	Frank M. Aldrich, Florence H. Taft,	Mendon. Mendon.

DEATHS REGISTERED IN 1889.

DATE.	NAME OF DECEASED.	AGE.			RESIDENCE.
		Yrs.	Mos.	Days.	
Feb. 8, 1889.	Robert Best,		3		Mendon.
12, "	Henry A. Parker,	54	9	2	"
Mar. 5, "	Jane Fowler,	76	3	10	"
10, "	Doton Smith,	96	8	28	"
15, "	Martha Smith,	89			"
April 21, "	Dwight Ellis,	87	8	23	"
25, "	Joseph Driscoll,			18	"
May 13, "	Bridget Casey,	62			"
16, "	Clara A. Curliss,	1	2	6	"
July 24, "	William B. Butman,	81	3	13	"
Sept. 24, "	Anna L. Aldrich,	40	5		"
25, "	John T. Morris,	20	3		"
Oct. 17, "	Freelove Amanda Greene,		5		"
Nov. 14, "	Sarah P. Wood,	71	2	13	"
Dec. 8, "	Thomas F. Coleman,	35	11	17	"
12, "	Rufus M. Aldrich,	63	1	4	"
24, "	Olive Walden,	89	7	8	"

DAVID ADAMS, Town Clerk.

Mendon, February 12, 1890.

TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

NINTH ANNUAL REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY.

The Trustees take pleasure in reporting that the benefits derived from the use of the Library continue to be appreciated, and that it has become an institution with which the citizens would be loath to part.

The Trustees were obliged, reluctantly, to accept, June 1, the resignation of Miss Mary E. Dudley, who had faithfully and acceptably filled the office of Librarian almost from the founding of the Library, and who resigned on account of ill health; they deemed themselves fortunate to at once secure the services of Miss Lena Williams, who has satisfactorily filled the position during the balance of the present year, and has been engaged for the ensuing year.

To carry out the vote of the Town authorizing the alteration and repair of the Library Building to fit it for the exclusive use of the Library, the Trustees elected a Committee, consisting of Messrs. Williams, Adams and George, to have charge of such alterations and repairs, and to refurnish the room. The Committee has attended to that duty, and the result is visible to any one visiting the Library Room.

The small room formerly occupied by the Town safes and other Town property, has been, by the removal of a partition, thrown into an alcove alongside of the one first used for books. This new alcove has been fitted with shelves to correspond with those in the original one, the Librarian's desk has been brought forward and placed in front of the partition between the alcoves, and being connected with the sides of the room by rails and close panels, the space devoted to books is separated from the public portion of the room, and easy access to either alcove is secured to the Librarian.

The ceiling of the room altered as above was formerly some 12 inches lower than the rest of the ceiling in the building; this has been raised, and by placing a similar arch in its front, the two alcoves present a uniformity not otherwise attainable. The ceiling of the main room was found to be so cracked and loose as to make it good policy to replace the same with new, which was done. The old wood-work was grained in imitation of ancient oak, and with the new was treated to a coat of varnish, the ceilings were whitened, and paper matching the wood-work placed upon the walls. The floor was painted, new curtains, tables and chairs were furnished; the outside of the building and the fence

around the lot painted, and the sign re-gilded. The room was then opened for the uses of the Library, showing an adaptability to the purposes for which it is used, and presenting an appearance of comfort and respectability which the Trustees hope has met the approval of the citizens. It was impracticable to commence on these alterations until the new offices for the Town Officers were sufficiently near completion so that the Town's property could be removed thereto. The delay in consequence brought the completion of the work on the Library at so late a date that it was deemed advisable that no action be taken in the matter of a new catalogue until next year, thus giving the Trustees and the new Librarian a chance to become better acquainted with the capacity of the shelf-room, and to find the best division which can be made of it; but the necessity for a new catalogue is a growing one and should be met the coming year.

The Report of the Librarian, and that of the Treasurer of the Trustees, which will be found in connection with this report, are referred to for special information in those departments.

The Trustees tender the thanks of the citizens to all those who have donated books, magazines or pamphlets to the Library during the past year. The books were examined February 1 current, and were found all accounted for and in good condition. The Library was re-opened February 8.

The Trustees recommend an appropriation of two hundred and twenty-five dollars for the use of the Library the ensuing year.

JULIUS A. GEORGE,
HORACE C. ADAMS,
G. B. WILLIAMS,

Trustees Taft Public Library.

Mendon, Feb. 8, 1890.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

TO THE TRUSTEES OF THE TAFT PUBLIC LIBRARY:—

The ninth annual report, founded upon the records kept by Miss Mary E. Dudley up to June 8, and afterwards by the undersigned, is submitted for your approval.

The Library re-opened for the delivery of books February 9. The whole circulation during the year was 3,871,—355 less than last year. One cause for the decrease is the fact that the Library was closed two Saturdays in September, while repairs were being made. The largest number of books given out any week was 102; the least number 39; the average number 79.

The circulation by divisions was as follows: Agriculture, 21; Biography, 153; History, 193; Travel, 151; Educational, 61; Poetry, 28; Miscellaneous, 100; Novels, 2870; Periodicals, 294.

The whole number of volumes belonging to the Library is 2689. 83 were added the past year, of which 63 were bought by the Town and 20 were presented; 13 other volumes, heretofore

stored, have been placed upon the shelves since the shelf-room was increased. Those given came from the following persons: Edward A. Mosely, 2; Hon. Henry B. Peirce, 9; Rev. C. A. Staples, 5; Hon. George F. Hoar, 4.

Harper's Magazine for 1888 was given by J. A. George, and several other pamphlets have come from different persons. \$6.90 has been received for fines and cards. All books were returned on February 1, in obedience to the seventh rule in the catalogue.

LENA WILLIAMS,

Librarian.

Mendon, February 3, 1890.

TREASURER'S REPORT.

Report of the Treasurer of the Trustees of the Taft Public Library for the year ending Feb. 1, 1890:—

Dr.

To cash received on eight orders of Selectmen,	\$359 76
“ of J. A. George for curtains,	50
“ Lena Williams, cards, fines, etc.,	6 90
	<hr/>
	\$367 16

Cr.

Cash paid W. B. Clarke & Co., books,	\$ 75 60
“ Mary E. Dudley, 4 mos. services as Librarian,	17 00
“ J. A. George, book,	1 00
“ Weed Bros. & Lent, stock and labor,	118 00
“ Julia Brigdale, labor,	75
“ William Henry, labor,	1 20
“ A. C. Chilson, stock and labor,	52 15
“ A. S. Pickering, labor,	16 76
“ Avery & Woodbury, paper,	3 86
“ Hixon Bros., furniture,	17 36
“ H. J. Dearing, curtains, etc.,	7 55
“ Clark Ellis & Sons, labor, etc.,	5 40
“ G. B. Williams, paper,	2 00
“ Berton Williams, labor,	4 75
“ A. W. Gaskill, sand,	2 00
“ Lena Williams, 8 mos. services as Librarian,	33 00
“ Lena Williams, expressage, etc.,	5 34
“ Charles R. Ellis, stock and labor,	3 00
Cash on hand,	44
	<hr/>
	\$367 16

Respectfully submitted,

HORACE C. ADAMS, Treasurer.

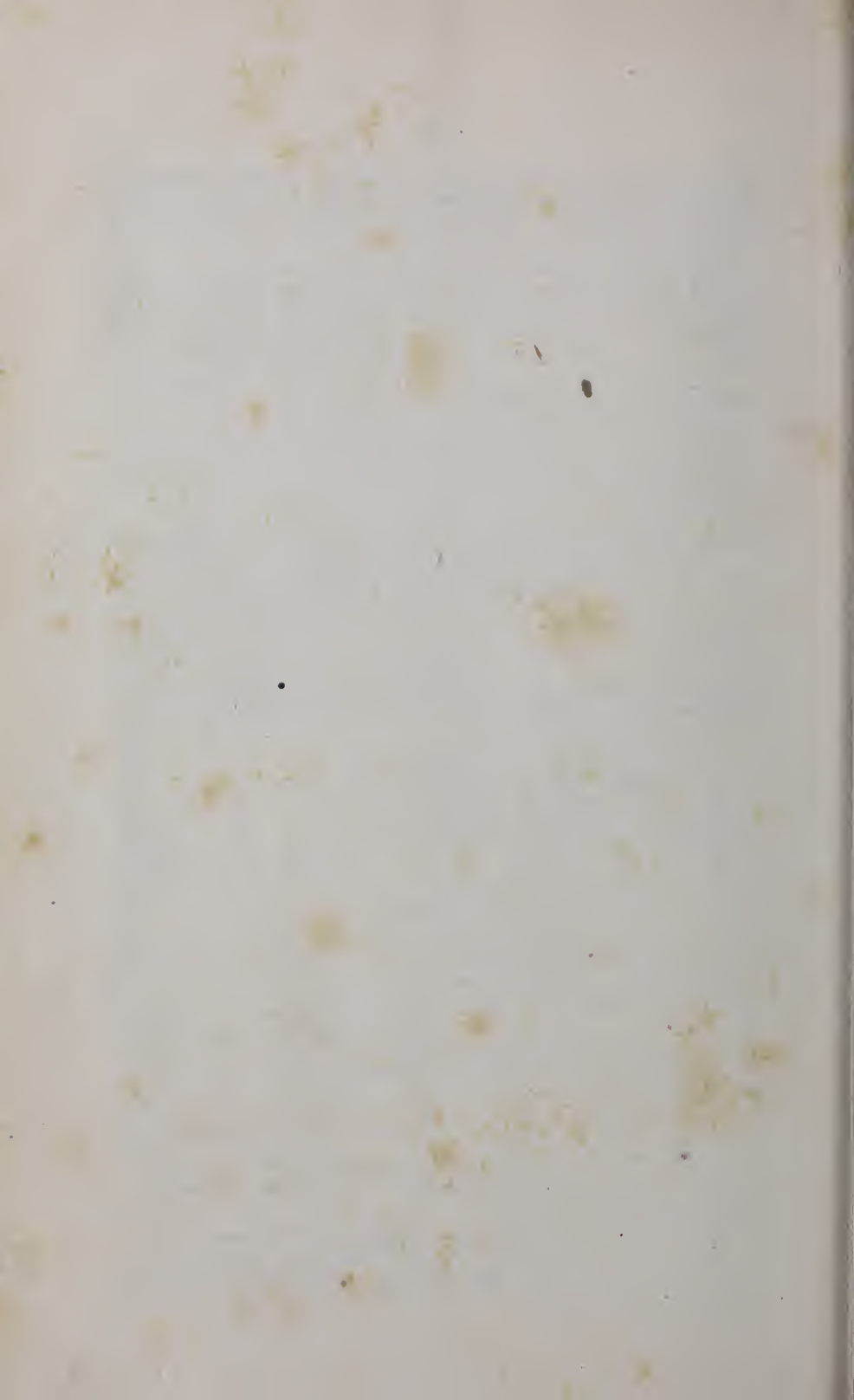
Mendon, Feb. 10, 1890.

Examined, found correct and with proper vouchers.

G. B. WILLIAMS,

JULIUS A. GEORGE, } Auditors.

Mendon, Feb. 10, 1890.



REPORT
OF THE
SCHOOL COMMITTEE
AND
SUPERVISOR OF SCHOOLS,
OF THE
TOWN OF MENDON,
FOR THE
SCHOOL YEAR 1889-90.

MILFORD, MASS.:
G. M. BILLINGS, PRINTER, GAZETTE OFFICE.
1890.

School Committee.

1889—1890.

ORGANIZATION.

FRANK H. WOOD, Chairman,	Term expires 1891
EDWARD DIXON, Secretary,	“ 1892
FREDERICK BATES,	“ 1890

EDWARD DIXON, Superintending Committee.

TRUANT OFFICERS.

WILLIAM W. NELSON,	HENRY G. BATES,
JOHN G. BARROWS.	

SCHOOL COMMITTEE'S REPORT.

To the Citizens of the Town of Mendon :—

The following report of the School Committee is respectfully submitted. The Committee organized March 29, 1889, and assigned the care of school property to the members as follows :—

West and Albeeville, Frank H. Wood ; South, Center and North, Edward Dixon ; East, Frederick Bates. The rooms at the Center have been papered and painted and the Primary-room stove has been exchanged for a more suitable one. The total expense was about seventy-five dollars. The South school-house has been painted, and the walls of the interior tinted. The interior of the East schoolhouse has been painted, and new curtains and two new settees added. A few minor repairs have been made in all the schoolhouses. The school year has been thirty weeks. Miss Mary E. Dudley, who had taught the Primary school very successfully for seven consecutive years, felt obliged to resign at the end of last year because of ill health. The Committee consider themselves unfortunate indeed in losing her services. Two others, Mrs. J. G. Barrows and Miss Cora E. Gaskill, successful teachers, signified their intention of resigning their positions at the close of the last school year.

Thus the school year opened with the loss of three experienced and successful teachers, and on the Committee devolved the unpleasant task of trying to find three candidates who would fill the vacancies. In this respect they were the most fortunate at the South school, Miss Thayer proving herself a faithful and competent teacher. She resigned at the end of the spring term to accept a better position in Blackstone. Miss Bessie Wilcox taught the school the remainder of the year. At the East the teacher resigned at the end of the seventh week, and Mr. Lyman Cook was engaged for the position. The change was a good one. At the Primary it was thought advisable to secure another teacher in the fall term, and again for the winter term. As the Primary was in rather a demoralized condition at the end of the fall term, Miss Hamant's task of bringing the school under proper discipline was a hard one. Miss Etta M. Hood was engaged for the winter term at Albeeville. The condition of the Grammar school at the end of last year called for a change of teachers. From about thirty applicants Miss Briggs was elected. She had charge of the school for the year. As usual, the High school principal resigned at the end of the year, the Committee being unable to prevail upon Mr. Wendel Williams, who taught the

Edward Dixon was elected Treasurer of the Committee, and appointed School-book Agent for the year. * He was also appointed Supervisor of Schools. The Committee ask that the town settle in a definite way the question of school supervision. If it instructs the Committee to appoint a Superintendent, an appropriation should be made for his salary, for if this is not done there is no limit to what the Committee may pay a Superintendent. That the schools must be superintended is not one of choice on the part of the town, but one of compulsion on the part of the state. The town has the choice of methods. The Committee know that it will be exceedingly difficult to secure the services of a suitable person for the customary salary, consequently if the town appropriates a sum no larger than is usually paid we must be satisfied with what we can get for the money.

DR.

\$2,660 00

C.R.

Wendel Williams (old bill),	\$ 90 00
Berton Williams “	10 40
Mary A. Barrows “	72 00
Annie W. Gaskill “	8 00
F. L. Pattee,	285 00
Geneva M. Briggs,	260 00
Alice M. Smith,	70 00
Josie W. Bates,	77 00
Mariette M. Hamant,	240 00
Etta M. Hood,	63 00
Ada C. Taft,	230 00
Ella F. Thayer,	60 00
Bessie W. Wilcox,	108 00
Flora E. Crooks,	50 40
Lyman Cook,	161 00
Frank H. Wood, for transportation of scholars,	150 00

W. W. Nelson, care of fire, (old bill),	\$ 5 00
“ “ (1889-90),	11 00
Alfred T. Dixon, “ “	10 00
“ preparing wood and kindlings,	4 00

Bessie W. Wilcox, care of fire,	\$ 2 00	
Ella F. Thayer, " "	1 50	
Samuel Warner, " "	4 00	
Ann Quigley, cleaning schoolrooms,	4 00	
Kate Foley, " "	2 00	
F. H. Wood, cash paid, cleaning schoolrooms,	3 25	
" fuel,	10 10	
A. A. Taft, fuel,	7 00	
J. G. Barrows, fuel,	6 00	
Frederick Bates, fuel, care of fire (1888-89),	11 35	
Harry Dixon, sweeping schoolrooms (1889-90),	6 00	
Field Bros., coal,	20 26	
W. E. Dixon, care of fire (old bill),	1 75	
		\$2,044 01
Western Pub. House, chart (astronomical),	\$12 50	
F. M. Ambrose, 2 Wor. unabridged dict's.,	15 00	
" 2 Language charts,	10 00	
Boston School Supply Co., charts (arith.),	5 20	
		\$42 70

INCIDENTALS.

Henry W. Brown, repairs,	\$ 1 25
Frederick Bates, repairs and supplies,	23 13
W. W. Nelson, use of well, " "	9 45
Fred Cole, labor,	2 25
A. G. Chilson, labor,	83 47
W. E. Dixon, labor and taking census,	4 00
H. A. Aldrich, postage,	4 00
A. P. Scribner, express,	12 10
E. L. Smith, use of well,	7 00
" labor,	2 75
C. H. Albee, use of well, (1888-89),	3 00
A. T. Dixon, labor,	5 00
F. H. French, clock,	5 50
F. E. Stevens, use of carriage,	1 50
T. E. Curran, supplies,	1 25
Ella F. Thayer, supplies,	62
I. O. Rhodes, supplies,	2 23
Ellis & Sons, supplies,	6 11
" stove,	25 00
Frank H. Wood, supplies,	1 10
Edward Dixon, services treasurer of School Committee, (1888-89),	10 00
Fare to Boston (twice),	4 00
Services as school-book agent,	30 00
Supervision to Jan. 1, 1890,	50 00
Paid for supplies and labor,	1 35
Boston School Supply Co.,	39 64
F. M. Ambrose,	2 00
D. Appleton,	2 71

Ginn & Co.,	\$ 12 12	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.,	20 04	
	<hr/>	\$372 57

SUMMARY.

Teachers' wages,	\$1,934 80	
Fuel and care of rooms,	109 21	
Apparatus from school fund,	42 70	
Incidentals,	372 57	
Text-books and supplies,	152 17	
Cash paid town treasurer,	48 55	
	<hr/>	\$2,660 00

EDWARD DIXON, Treasurer.

SCHOOL BOOK AGENT'S REPORT.

DR.

To books and supplies purchased :—		
Boston School Supply Co.,	\$53 40	
Van Antwerp, Bragg & Co.,	66 14	
F. M. Ambrose,	19 77	
D. Appleton,	12 86	
	<hr/>	
	\$152 17	
To books and supplies on hand,	24 31	
	<hr/>	\$176 48

CR.

By books and supplies furnished :—		
High school,	37 00	
Grammar school,	35 08	
Primary school,	30 02	
North school,	17 06	
South school,	10 10	
East school,	10 04	
Albeeville school,	8 16	
	<hr/>	
	\$147 46	
Books and supplies on hand,	29 02	
	<hr/>	\$176 48

BOOKS AND SUPPLIES ON HAND.

16 White's Elementary Arithmetics,	\$6 72
5 Eggleston's U. S. Histories,	5 25
4 Lippincott's First Readers,	67
2 Davis' First Readers, teacher's edition,	70
2 " " pupil's "	50

12 Eclectic Primers,	\$ 1 25
20 " First Readers,	3 00
12 " Second "	3 00
11 " Third "	3 85
5 " Fourth "	2 10
12 " Drawing books,	1 00
1 Package blotters,	50
4 Slates,	20
4 Doz. Lead Pencils,	28
	<hr/>
	\$29 02

EDWARD DIXON, Agent.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT.

RESOURCES.

Town appropriation,	\$1,600 00
Income from state school fund,	205 04
Income from dog tax,	141 13
Due for out-of-town scholars,	24 00
	<hr/>
	\$1,970 17

EXPENDITURES.

Teachers' wages, fuel and care of rooms,	\$1863 61
Apparatus from school fund,	42 70
Teachers' wages unpaid,	75 00
Bill for care of fire unpaid,	3 00
	<hr/>
	\$1984 31
Old bills (above last year's estimate),	14 15
	<hr/>
	\$1,970 16
Amount unexpended, one cent.	

SUPERVISOR'S REPORT.

As the Committee were unable to unite with the School Committees of other towns in employing a District Superintendent of Schools, and as the town voted that the School Committee should not appoint a Superintendent of Schools for the town, the task of supervision has, this year, fallen upon the Committee. Supervision being compulsory, it finally resulted that the Secretary of the Board, much against his desires, assumed the duties of Supervisor. Although the time at his disposal is very limited, he has given almost all of it to this work. He feels that he has, at least, given as much time to supervision as the salary pays for.

On the whole, the schools are not in as prosperous a condition as they should be, but perhaps they are as good as the town ought to expect under existing conditions. There are fourteen more scholars of school age this year than last.

ATTENDANCE.

One of the evils the schools have to contend with is irregular attendance. Many parents seem to think that a half-day's or a day's absence, occasionally, will not make much difference to the scholar or the school, but it is not so. The prosperity of the school depends, in a great degree, upon the attendance of *every* scholar *every* day.

The state authorities have recognized this fact in the law making attendance at school compulsory for twenty weeks in the year. The law means that all children between eight and fourteen years of age, (health permitting,) shall attend school six hours a day for twenty weeks; that for twenty weeks, every school day a scholar is not in school six hours, the law is broken; that for every such offence the parent or guardian is liable to a fine of twenty dollars or less. The law should be respected. To cause a child to be irregular in attendance and then blame the teacher for the bad results that follow such irregularity is very unjust. Parents should make every effort to have their children in school every day; and when they fail to do so, the truant officers should know why they are not there.

ROLL OF HONOR.

NAMES OF SCHOLARS NEITHER ABSENT NOR TARDY.

One Term.

HIGH SCHOOL.—Nancy C. Wood, Laura Warner, William

Southwick, Annie Aldrich, Cora Taft, Abigail Taft, Alfred T. Dixon, Lewis Wood.

GRAMMAR SCHOOL.—Morton Holbrook, Ernest Tucker, John Tucker, Ernest Metcalf, Mason Kinsley, Walter Towne, Clarence Moores, Nettie Nutter, Grace Nutter.

PRIMARY SCHOOL.—Bessie Cook, Mary Kelley, Sabray Moores, Minnie Wood, Etta Stinson, Mabel I. Wheeler, Sarah L. Staples, Bertha P. Metcalf, Jerry Driscoll, Nathan F. Towne, Oliver Moores, William Driscoll, Edward Driscoll.

NORTH SCHOOL.—Dwight Davenport, Fred Davenport, Ernest Davenport, John Grady.

SOUTH SCHOOL.—Ida M. Barrows, Bennie Barrows, Charles Daniels, Leon Daniels.

EAST SCHOOL.—Jennie Tingley, Bertha Horton, Ellen Taylor, Charles Cook, Waldo Rockwood, Willie Rockwood, Norman Cook.

ALBEEVILLE SCHOOL.—William Aldrich, Mary L. Wood, Laura Cunningham, Mary Hoard, William Broughay.

Two Terms.

GRAMMAR.—Arthur Pond, Everett Darling, Harry Dixon, Florence Snow.

PRIMARY.—Jessie Wheeler.

NORTH.—Ida Darling, Ora Davenport, Richard Odlum.

SOUTH.—John Daniels.

EAST.—Bertha Sprague, Cora Mungur.

ALBEEVILLE.—Estine Taft, Theresa Moore.

One Year.

PRIMARY.—Norman Wheeler.

NORTH.—Rosie Quigley.

ALBEEVILLE.—Hattie Albee.

Two Years.

NORTH.—Willie Mahaney.

SCHOOLHOUSES.

For the past few years there has been a steady improvement in the condition of our schoolhouses and their surroundings, so that compared with what they were several years ago there is much to be thankful for; but they are yet far from being satisfactory. Many alterations and repairs are yet needed to put them in even fair condition, and undoubtedly some of them would have been made this year, but the Committee thought it best not to put the town to much expense until the buildings had been visited by the state inspector of public buildings. The out-buildings and the ventilation of schoolrooms should receive the immediate

attention of the Committee. All the schoolhouses except the North have no other means of ventilation than by opening doors or windows. This method is always dangerous to employ because it is apt to subject scholars to draughts, and thus endangers their health. The only building that *approaches* a modern schoolhouse is the North. Here a new chimney should be built, a new fence put up, the yard improved; and the well, at present useless, should, if possible, be put into condition for use. The Center schoolrooms and surroundings, all things considered, are in the worst condition of any. But as the state inspector has recently visited this building, the town will probably have its condition fully made known through another channel. The yard should be divided and properly fenced to separate the sexes at recess. To make the division at all equal the yard must be enlarged on the north side. It should also be fenced off from the road. The scholars should feel that the schoolyard is especially for their use. When a schoolyard extends to the street, and there is no fence between, the boundary is so indefinite that scholars cannot be expected to recognize it. So long as the schoolhouses empty themselves into the highway, we must expect to find scholars at all times of the day traveling the public streets.

The South schoolhouse needs immediate attention. In this room are found the old-fashioned board seats, uncomfortable, unsightly. As it seems necessary there should be a school here, the scholars should cease to be made martyrs of.

The East schoolhouse needs renovating. The room is certainly too small for good work, there is no place provided for scholars to hang up their clothes, and no woodshed. The Albee-ville schoolhouse and surroundings are in fair condition, still there are many things that might be done to improve them.

CARE OF ROOMS.

"The duties in the way of housekeeping which devolve upon janitors and teachers are of the utmost importance educationally." Certainly in a town like ours the teachers should be able, in an emergency, to build a fire, and be possessed of the requisite skill to run one successfully through the day, especially when she can always have the willing assistance of the scholars. She should have interest enough in the welfare of her school to see that the room is ventilated before each session is begun, and at both recesses; that the floor is kept clean, and the room dusted at least once a day. In fact, the School Committee look to the teachers to keep their rooms in as good condition for work as the appliances at their command will permit. Teachers have made no complaint to the School Committee that janitors have neglected their work, but there have been times when they ought to.

Educational critics say that School Committees, as a rule, employ for janitors either old men or boys, and neither class can do the work properly. So far as we are concerned, the work of

janitor is usually performed by a boy, poorly paid, and as a consequence, we do not have the highest order of work. As no reasonable person would expect the town to pay a man to devote his whole time to the care of two or three schoolhouses, and as the work ought to be done by somebody, we must of necessity depend upon our teachers for part of it. It is the teacher's especial privilege to control, so far as possible, the temperature of the room during school hours, and the School Committee would no more wish the janitors to encroach upon this privilege than they would to have the janitor enter the room and take charge of a recitation.

Janitors, after they have attended to their morning duties in the schoolroom, should lock the door, allowing no scholars to remain in the room. The teachers should see that they do so, as they and not the janitors are held responsible for damage done to school property by the scholars. To say "such damage was done before school or at noon" does not relieve the teachers of the responsibility. The town provides the building to be used for school purposes. It is not incumbent upon the town to furnish a room for a play-ground an hour before school begins, or for a dining-room at noon. If scholars have the use of the rooms at such times, it should be on condition of good behavior. This is the least appreciation they can show for the privilege. When at such times scholars break windows for fun, make footballs of six-dollar globes and use for drums forty-dollar stoves, it is time to initiate a reform, even at the expense of old customs.

Whenever school property is damaged, the teachers should forthwith report such damage to the Committee, together with, if possible, the names of those committing it. For many reasons teachers should reach the schoolhouse earlier than they have been accustomed to.

SESSIONS.

In all schools except the High, the sessions are from 9 A. M. to 12 M., and from 1 P. M. to 4 P. M., with two recesses of fifteen minutes each, unless changed by direction of the School Committee. When a teacher changes the time of the sessions without such direction she assumes the duties of the Committee. Of course this closing the school occasionally to suit her convenience is recognized by the teachers as a privilege their predecessors have enjoyed many years. They have no thought of doing wrong. They regard it as a long-established custom. Nevertheless it is a custom that should not prevail.

Teachers should aim to be prompt in opening and closing school. Scholars should know school will begin promptly at a *certain* time. They should know also that, providing they are not detained after hours for punishment, they will be let out exactly on time. When a teacher is sick, or for some other reason cannot teach her school, she should immediately notify the mem-

ber of the School Committee having charge of that school. It might happen that he would rather put in a substitute teacher than have the school closed.

TEACHERS.

James Russell Lowell says: "We cannot have ideal teachers in our public schools for the price we pay or in the number we require." For most of our teachers, Mendon is a "stopping place" until they can better themselves. They are looking continually towards some other town that pays higher wages and has a longer school year, consequently they are, in a certain sense, dissatisfied with their positions and lack proper interest in their work. Teachers are plentiful enough and can always be engaged for the wages we pay, but some of them are dear at any price. The frequent changes in our teaching force, in most cases unavoidably necessary, are bad for our schools. How this state of things is to be remedied is a difficult problem. Many of our citizens think higher wages will speedily solve it. That is not so in all cases. I have met teachers in Boston several times and tried hard to have them come to Mendon to teach; but as soon as they learned the town is three miles from a railway station, they wouldn't entertain the proposition for a moment, although the wages were satisfactory.

METHODS.

A. W. Edson, in the last state report, says: "One would suppose, after all that has been said or written of late in favor of topical teaching, that the hand-to-mouth style of questioning and answering would be done away with by this time; but such is not the case." This hand-to-mouth way of conducting recitations is the one that prevails in our schools. The text-book is king and the schools are its slaves. It almost absolutely governs all the questions and answers. Independent thought is lost sight of almost completely. "To repeat the words correctly seems to be everything; to understand the meaning nothing." Children cannot be taught to *think* by learning page after page of disconnected facts. Such work simply exercises the memory in a bad way and substitutes for good, solid school work a glittering sham. The proper training of the mind is of infinitely more consequence in school than is the gaining of a knowledge of facts. The number of pages a scholar has "been over" in a term is of little consequence compared with the knowledge he has acquired *and his method of acquiring it*. The notion that "getting through" a book implies a positive amount of knowledge gained, or training received, is a fallacious one. We should have better work done in our schools. The most urgent need of reform in methods of teaching lies in the Primary grades. In the district schools the

teachers find work enough to do in the upper classes, work more congenial to their tastes. The Primary classes, being of less consequence (?) and not needed to show off the school, are woefully neglected. In the Centre, where an attempt is made to have graded schools, the Primary is overburdened. There is too much for one teacher to do. She has the same number of grades to teach that towns around us have from two to four teachers for. There is need of an Intermediate school at the Center. No sensible person would claim that, with all the advantages our children enjoy, one teacher ought to do as much in thirty weeks as can be done for children of other towns by two or three teachers in thirty-six to forty weeks. Teachers claim that the conditions are such that good teaching in these grades ought not to be expected, yet they do not advance a sufficient excuse for all the poor work done in these classes. In the district schools, the teachers cannot afford to neglect the Primary classes. If either grade is to be neglected, by all means let it be the Grammar, for if the scholars are properly taught in the Primary classes, they will know how to do almost all the work required without *much* direction from the teacher, because they will have formed good habits of study. It is no easy task to effect a change in methods. Teachers, unless they are constantly on their guard, and continually trying to improve their minds and their methods of teaching, soon fall into ruts. A prominent educator says: "It takes ten years to get a new idea under way in our public schools." Scholars under the prevailing superficial methods of instruction have formed bad habits of thought. Before good work can be done these must be broken up and good habits of thought substituted. But when will it be done? The old way is easier. There is much more "snap" to it. The scholars are so much better satisfied with themselves in giving their parrot-like exercises, and their parents are better pleased to hear prompt answers. And when scholars who have "gone through" our schools come to mingle with the world, where they have every opportunity of practically applying the knowledge they have gained in school, they discover with chagrin that they have forgotten almost all they knew. They have neither knowledge, nor the habits of acquiring it. Methods of teaching that do not make scholars *think* are valueless.

HOW SHALL OUR SCHOOLS BE IMPROVED?

1. By making the schoolhouses and surroundings more attractive, and providing proper accommodations for the scholars.
2. By public sympathy. Every citizen should feel his individual responsibility to the schools. Intelligent criticism is always welcomed by teachers and school officers. The teacher can make a good school, but if the community manifests no interest in her work, is it any wonder she soon becomes indifferent to results?

Citizens should visit the schools, and by their presence extend their support to the teacher. By visiting, they can observe the work of the school and thus form their opinions of what is being done, intelligently.

3. By lengthening the school year to thirty-six weeks. This means a larger appropriation by \$400.

4. By more and better supervision. No right-thinking person would contend that our schools can be superintended as they should be for the salary now paid.

5. The schools should be supplied with the apparatus needed for modern methods.

6. There should be a decided change in the methods of teaching.

EDWARD DIXON, Supervisor of Schools.

FRANK H. WOOD,
EDWARD DIXON,
FREDERICK BATES,

School Committee.

SCHOOLS.	TEACHERS.	Terms.	No. of scholars.	Average Membership.	Average Attendance.	Per cent of attendance.	No. of scholars under five years of age.	No. of scholars over 15 years of age.	No. of scholars between 8 and 14 yrs. of age.	Wages of teachers per month.
HIGH.	F. L. Pattee . . .	1	20	19.3	17.4	93		14		\$60
	"	2								
GRAMMAR.	Geneva M. Briggs .	1	24	22	21	95				32
	"	2	24	21	21	95			24	36
	"	3	30	26	22	85				36
PRIMARY.	Mary A. Smith . . .	1	44	41	37	90				
	Josie W. Bates . . .	2	44	42	41	95	1		23	28
	Mariette Hamant . .	3	44	31	26	84				
NORTH.	Ada C. Taft . . .	1	26	24	22	91			14	28
	"	2	26	24.7	23	93			16	32
	"	3	25	23.2	22.8	93		2	16	32
SOUTH.	Ella F. Thayer . . .	1	10	8.4	8.1	96				
	Bessie W. Wilcox . .	2	10	9.8	8	81			4	24
	"	3	6	5.5	5.2	94				
EAST.	Flora Crooks, Lyman Cook	1	20	10.1	12.7					
	Lyman Cook . . .	2	16	14.9	14.4	96		2	16	
	"	3	20	18.1	16.2	89				
ALBEEVILLE.	Mariette Hamant . .	1	20	18	16.5	92				32
	"	2	21	18	16	90	1	1	14	32
	Etta M. Hood . . .	3	13	11.4	10	87				28

AUDITOR'S REPORT.

I have examined the accounts of the Selectmen, Treasurer, Overseers of the Poor, Surveyors of Highways, School Committee, and Collector of Taxes, of the Town of Mendon, and that of the Treasurer of the Taft Public Library, for the past municipal year, and find them correctly kept and with proper vouchers.

JULIUS A. GEORGE, Auditor.

Mendon, February 15, 1890.

TOWN WARRANT.

WORCESTER SS.—To the Constable of the Town of Mendon,
in the County of Worcester, GREETING :

In the name of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, you are directed to notify the inhabitants of the Town of Mendon qualified to vote in elections and in town affairs, to meet at the Town Hall, in said Mendon, on Monday, the third day of March, next, punctually at ten o'clock, A. M., to act on the following articles viz. :—

Article 1. To choose a Moderator to preside in said meeting.

Article 2. To hear the reports of the several town officers and committees, and act thereon.

Article 3. To choose all necessary town officers for the year ensuing.

Article 4. To raise such sums of money as are necessary to defray town charges, and make appropriations of the same.

Article 5. To determine the manner of repairing the roads and bridges in said town the year ensuing.

Article 6. To see if the town will require the School Committee annually to appoint a Superintendent of Schools, and if so, raise and appropriate money for his salary.

Article 7. To see if the town will vote to accept the list of jurors reported by the Selectmen, or make any alterations in the same.

Article 8. To see what measures, if any, the town will adopt to secure the speedy collection of taxes.

Article 9. To see if the town will vote to continue the High School.

Article 10. To see if the town will authorize the Treasurer to hire money to pay current expenses for the municipal year commencing March 3d, 1890, in anticipation of the collection of the taxes.

Article 11. To see what action the town will take as to its indebtedness on bond outstanding.

Article 12. To bring in their ballots "Yes" or "No" in an-

swer to the question, "Shall licenses be granted for the sale of intoxicating liquors in this town?"

Article 13. To see if the town will continue communication by telephone with Milford, as security against destruction by fire, or act in relation thereto.

Article 14. To see what amount of money, if any, the town will vote to raise and appropriate for conveying pupils to and from the public schools, the same to be expended by the School Committee in their discretion.

Article 15. To see if the town will accept the provisions of sections seventy-four, seventy-five, seventy-six and seventy-seven of chapter twenty-seven of the Public Statutes, and choose three road commissioners as set forth in said sections, and determine their compensation.

Article 16. To see what special amount, if any, the town will vote to appropriate for the repair of the road leading from the residence of David Adams past the residence of Francis F. Taft to the Hopedale line, or take any other action in regard to making special repairs on said road or any part thereof.

Article 17. To see if the town will accept Chapter 309 of the Acts of 1885 in relation to licensing groves.

Article 18. To see if the town will determine what shall be the length of the school year.

Article 19. To see what amount, if any, the town will raise and appropriate for the purchase of school apparatus.

Article 20. To see what alterations, repairs and improvements, if any, the town will make upon the basement of the town hall, the schoolrooms above, the hall itself, the land, buildings, and fences therewith used, and upon any other or others of the town's school buildings and the furnishing and methods of heating and ventilating any or all of said rooms and buildings.

Article 21. To see what means, if any, the town will take towards procuring a lot for a new schoolhouse or selecting a site therefor on land now owned by the town, and building and furnishing such schoolhouse.

Article 22. To see if the town will accept the provisions of Chapter 431 of the Acts of 1888, relating to the employment of a superintendent of schools, and appropriate money therefor.

And you are directed to serve this Warrant, by posting up attested copies thereof at each of the following places in said town, seven days at least before the time of holding said meeting, viz: At the post-office, and on the door of the schoolhouse in Albeeville, and at the post-office at South Milford.

Hereof fail not, and make due return of this warrant, with

your doings thereon, to the Selectmen or Town Clerk, before the time of meeting aforesaid.

Given under our hands at Mendon, this fifteenth day of February, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety.

GUSTAVUS B. WILLIAMS,	} Selectmen of Mendon.
ALBERT W. GASKILL,	
LIBERTY FREEMAN,	

A true copy. Attest:—

Constable of Mendon.

